

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 have been amended herein. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

B 1. (currently amended) A method for insulating or thermally protecting a rocket motor assembly comprising:
providing a precursor material comprising at least one aromatic polyamide, the precursor material having a denier per fiber ranging from 1.5 denier per fiber to 3.0 denier per fiber;
~~forming a reinforcement structure comprising at least one aromatic polyamide~~ carbonizing the precursor material to form a reinforcement structure;
impregnating the reinforcement structure with a resin matrix to form a rocket motor ablative material; and
~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with~~ using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of a rocket motor assembly.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises ~~forming the reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising carded and yarn-spun staple aramid fibers.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises ~~forming the reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising yarn-spun aramid filaments.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement structure providing a precursor material~~ comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises forming a reinforcement structure providing a precursor material comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of aramid felt and aramid flock.

B 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with the rocket motor ablative material using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of a rocket motor assembly~~ comprises applying the rocket motor ablative material as a bulk ablative material of an exit nozzle liner.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with the rocket motor ablative material using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of a rocket motor assembly~~ comprises applying the rocket motor ablative material as a bulk ablative material of a reentry vehicle nose cone.

7. (currently amended) A method for insulating or thermally protecting a rocket motor assembly comprising:
providing a precursor material comprising at least one poly(meta-arylaramid), the precursor material having a denier per fiber ranging from 1.5 denier per fiber to 3.0 denier per fiber
forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid) the precursor material~~;
impregnating the reinforcement structure with a resin matrix to form a rocket motor ablative material; and
~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with~~ using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of a rocket motor assembly.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid) the precursor material~~ comprises forming the reinforcement structure comprising carded and yarn-spun staple aramid fibers.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid)~~ the precursor material comprises forming the reinforcement structure comprising yarn-spun aramid filaments.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid)~~ the precursor material comprises forming the reinforcement structure comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of aramid felt and aramid flock.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with the rocket motor ablative material~~ using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of a rocket motor assembly comprises applying the rocket motor ablative material as a bulk ablative material of an exit nozzle liner.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~lining a portion of the rocket motor assembly with the rocket motor ablative material~~ using the rocket motor ablative material on a portion of the rocket motor assembly comprises applying the rocket motor ablative material as a bulk ablative material of a reentry vehicle nose cone.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises forming the at least one aromatic polyamide into a yarn.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement structure~~ providing a precursor material comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises structuring the yarn into a desired structure.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~forming a reinforcement~~

~~structure providing a precursor material~~ comprising at least one aromatic polyamide comprises carbonizing the desired structure.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid)~~ the precursor material comprises forming the at least one poly(meta-arylaramid) into a yarn.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid)~~ the precursor material comprises structuring the yarn into a desired structure.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein forming a reinforcement structure comprising ~~at least one poly(meta-arylaramid)~~ the precursor material comprises carbonizing the desired structure.